

28 April 1948

Mr. D. C. Wilkerson  
15 - 132 General Motors Bldg.  
Detroit 2, Michigan

Dear Dan:

It was a great pleasure to receive your kind letter of April 19th and to get all the dope about the Alumni Association in Detroit.

Thank you for your invitation to come and speak to the Alumni Association, but I am afraid that I shall have to decline that principally because we are striving for anonymity and the surest way not to get anonymity is to go around and make speeches. However, I am most grateful for the honor you suggested.

I have sent in the ballot and, of course, could think of nothing else but voting for you for a Trustee at large. I think you have done a fine job out there, and I have heard a lot about your good work.

With best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely,

*Dep. Dir.  
DD + ED. 4-28*  
R. H. Hillenkoetter  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central Intelligence

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Distribution:  
-Director  
Central Records

Note for record: DCI received ltr from Wilkerson, 5/20/48, ER 9970, re DCI speaking before Alumni group. Sent to C.R. for file on 6/21/48.

*Wilkerson, D.C.*

April 19 48

Dear Roscoe:

Glad to note that you gave a good account of your Bogota job to the Congressional committee. They certainly picked you for a hot-seat assignment. Hope you get a fair chance to breathe. We do not see many of the '20 outfit in Detroit. An occasional inspection visit turns up a few - but now since the war, - the shooting war, - is formally terminated, the visitors from the Navy are getting fewer here.

There are about 40 active alumni in the Detroit area, and we meet the first Thursday of each month. Al Spriggs lives in Cedar Rapids Mich, and Art Gillespie in Birmingham, Mich. Over the whole state we have an alumni total of approximately 200 men.

Over the past 10 years, Detroit has become quite Navy-conscious, and the local situation seems to be much better with each year. We have a fine Council of National Defense and its operations have served all of the military needs excellently.

I would like to know whether or not you are able to go out on speaking assignments, so that when the civic committee for Navy Day meets, I could state whether or not you would be receptive to an invitation. Please advise me on this when you get a chance.

The Detroit alumni has nominated me for "at large" trustee, so - if you want to vote for Wilkinson, please use the enclosed ballot. Having served as local chairman for 15 years, they thought they could place me to do some field work for the alumni, like Vic Blakeslee used to do.

Some of these days, when time permits, I hope to see you again in Washington. Had a good bullfest with John Gingrich last fall.

Should you be in a position to make a talk here during the next six or seven months, I would like to hear from you so that some arrangements could be made. Don Walker national president of the USNA alumni will be here on May 6.

With my best personal regards. I am

Sincerely yours

Don Wilkerson

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Detroit 2, Mich.